



ISSUE 5 - Friday 14 February 2025

THE SKA SPOTLIGHT



'Putting Every Student on the Path to a Happy, Successful, and Fulfilling Life'

Excellence

The **Sixth Form Team** would like to extend a huge congratulations to **all students** who have applied to **university** for September 2025! This is an exciting milestone, and we wish you the best of luck as you take the next steps toward your future. Whether you're awaiting offers or preparing for interviews, your hard work and dedication have brought you this far. Well done!

Poppy in Year 11 has continued to wow the art department with her artistic skills, producing stunning drawings of animals in her own time to further her own abilities. Her unwavering commitment to the subject has already seen Poppy achieve full marks in her first assessment during Year 10 so we are excited to see how Year 11 concludes.

100% of the **Year 13 art students** applied to art-based higher education courses this academic year. The choice of courses was broad and wide-ranging including Game Design, Illustration and Interior Design. We are pleased to share that every student has received an offer to study next year and continue their creative journeys. We are immensely proud of their achievements.

This term the Year 11's have had an assembly on various strategies on how to revise for **GCSE Mathematics and GCSE statistics**. Each student was given a pack of revision materials that contained revision guides, an exam workbook, prepopulated flashcards, mindmaps and key skills questions. Why not ask your year 11 to show you this pack? Following this assembly some students have been actively revising independently and we have seen the numbers at Thursday night maths revision improve dramatically. The maths team hope to see your year 11 students at sessions soon.

Respect

It was extremely humbling to be able to celebrate the efforts of **Tracey Turner and Royal British Legion** at our recent Community Awards event for all the hard work and efforts with the **Skegness Poppy Appeal 2024**. We are also excited to be part of the appeal this year which is even bigger and better. The art department have started putting together the plans for a very ambitious display and we are also an official drop off location for any knitted or crocheted poppies.

Teachers from the **Arts and Culture Faculty** were invited to take part in CPD this term with the Royal Shakespeare Company and Embassy Theatre. The cluster group which was set up last year as part of the Royal Shakespeare Company's First Encounters Programme, has access to specialist training, which can be utilised with students in lessons.

Diary Dates

Monday 24 February 2025 – Students return to School for Term 4.

Monday 24 February 2025 – Drama Showcase rehearsals begin.

Wednesday 5 March – Drama Showcase Performance.

Tuesday 11 March 2025 – Year 9 Parents' Evening.

Tuesday 18 March 2025 – Year 9 Options Evening.

Every Student

Every Lesson

Every Day

Be present - Be engaged - Be excellent

Personal Responsibility

The Arts and Culture Faculty would like to congratulate students in **Key Stages 4 and 5** who have improved their attendance as they have begun assessments this term.

Well done to **Key Stage 5 Applied Law, Information Technology, Performing Arts and Travel and Tourism** students who took part in written exams in January. We are excited to see the results very soon!

Rotations for Performing Arts and Dance take place at the end of this term and the Dance showcase is coming up which we are really excited about. Our students take our productions seriously and we cannot wait to showcase their amazing talent. More information will come out soon about tickets.

Assessment continue in Key Stage 4 and 5. Here is a link to the letter -

<https://www.skegnessacademy.org/attachments/download.asp?file=1543&type=pdf>

Wet Weather Update

We are aware that some of our students do not have the appropriate wet weather attire and would therefore like to offer a **free Poncho or Umbrella** for any student who may require it as we move through Autumn and Winter.

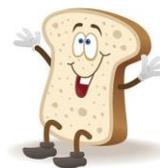
Click here to complete a form to request a free **umbrella or poncho** for your child –

<https://forms.office.com/e/8SBcPLrUVW>

Breakfast Club at SKA

When... from 8.00am daily.
Where... The Bistro. Enter via Student Reception at the front of school.
Cost... £1.20 for breakfast and a drink. Free for children eligible for Free School Meals.

Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast ranging from toast, crumpets, muffins and bagels to cereal, yoghurts and fruit. Some days there will also be bacon, sausage and egg rolls. No need to book, just ensure that your child has sufficient funds on their ParentPay account.



Gratitude

We recently advertised our **National Theatre Connections** production of '**Their Name is Joy**' written by May Sumbwanyambe. Students have been busy rehearsing for the production which they will also perform at Nottingham Playhouse later this academic year.

At the start of this term students in **Years 7, 8 and 9** started in their new Craft, Design and Technology subject as part of the rotations. We would like to extend our thank you to students for making this transition positively and embracing the new subjects they are now studying.

Safeguarding and Contacting the Academy

Anyone can and should report a safeguarding concern if they believe a child or adult may be a victim of neglect, abuse or cruelty. To report a safeguarding concern within school hours please contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Mrs C Pilkington Smith via the school office. Click here to access the Safeguarding page on the Academy's website.

[Skegness Academy – Safeguarding.](#)

Academy Office: 01754 879122 or SKA-admin@skegnessacademy.org

Follow SKA on **Facebook** to see more updates, important information and student successes.

<https://www.facebook.com/SkegnessAcademyGAT>

Sport Updates

We have been busy with fixtures this term in the PE Department. We have played a range of local, country and Trust fixtures and competitions in a range of different sports.

Futsal – Year 7 and 9 Girls and Boys

Our Year 7 and 9 Girls and Boys visited Skegness Grammar School to take part in the Coastal Futsal tournament. All the teams did really well. Here are the overall results:

- Year 7 Girls – Overall Winners
- Year 7 Boys – 4th Place
- Year 9 Girls – 2nd Place
- Year 9 Boys – 4th Place



Superzone Sports Hall Athletics – Year 7

We hosted six secondary schools from the local area to compete in Sports Hall Athletics for Year 7. There were some fantastic performances from the students. It was a close competition with the lead changing several times throughout the event. We are pleased to announce that Skegness Academy finished in second place 2 points behind the leaders.



Sport Updates

Year 8 & 9 Basketball Nottingham

Skegness Academy girls and boys basketball teams travelled to Nottingham Academy to the Wild Cats arena to take part in the GAT Trust Inter Basketball competition. They played teams from Northampton, Peterborough and Nottingham. All the students played well throughout the day. We are pleased to report the girls team finished in second place. This is the best result we have achieved in eight years of the competition running.



Friendlies against King Edwards, Spilsby

In preparation for the Year 7 and 9 netball leagues we travelled to King Edward Academy at Spilsby to play some friendlies. There were some fantastic performances from the girls and we are now looking forward to starting the league on Wednesday evenings after half term.



County Cup Year 8 Football

We welcomed Sir William Robertson Academy from Lincoln to play in the County Cup. There were some standout performances from Noah, Cayden and Archie. We are happy to report we were the winners of the round with an impressive scoreline of 5-2. In the next round it is a huge local derby against Skegness Grammar School in the quarter finals. Well done to the whole team.



LPPA



The Skegness Academy has recently embarked on the **Leading Parent Participation Award** which will support us to deliver outstanding engagement with all our parents and carers.

This term we hosted our first ever Community Champion Evening. This was a fabulous evening to celebrate our fantastic community and the work they do to support and benefit others. We look forward to our next one in the Autumn term!



Throughout the academic year, we will be participating in a range of activities and carrying out surveys with parents and carers about their experience of the Skegness Academy and asking them to recommend ways that we can improve.

If you would be interested in joining our working group as a parent ambassador, please contact Mrs Ferrier on sferrier@skegnessacademy.org

Attendance Updates

Attendance still remains well over 5% in comparison to last year.

Students loved our Mystery Three competition this term, which meant lots of our tutor groups received donuts. Well done to all those students in each group that maintained 96% and above attendance.

We are still awarding 5 students with a £10 voucher on a Friday. This has created great excitement as students are totally unaware of who the winner will be!

We are looking forward to next term as we have a fantastic Easter attendance competition being launched.

Thank you to everyone that has supported us this term. We can't wait for term 4!

UNICEF Update

Another busy term for the **UNICEF steering group!**

As part of the SKA commitment to UNICEF, our student ambassadors sent a gift of SKA pencil cases to our partner school in Kakamega, Kenya. They arrived a few weeks ago and it was great to receive these pictures back from the school.



Valentines

Due to the school closure on Friday 14 February 2025, we have moved the SKA Valentines Day to Friday 28 February 2025.

See more information to the right.

To find out what your child will be learning in Term 4, click the link below.

<https://www.skegnessacademy.org/attachments/download.asp?file=1620&type=pdf>



**SKEGNESS ACADEMY
VALENTINE'S DAY
FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2025**

Show someone you care!
Buy a tag for 50p and write your own message. We will attach it to a lolly and deliver it P5 on Friday 28 February

Tags available every break and lunch in The Bistro.

Drama

We are pleased to announce the Skegness Academy production of *Their Name Is Joy*, written by May Sumbwanyambe.

The play is set on a farm in Lincolnshire in 2019, as a group of young British casual workers come face to face with modern day slavery.

Performed by Skegness Academy students as part of the National Theatre Connections 2025.

Tickets available on Eventbrite - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/national-theatre-connections-2025-tickets-1228073353459?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&scrybrkr=202a0fd8>

Please note that the play explores themes of xenophobia and far right views and with discussions of starvation, trafficking and modern slavery.



Year 11 Mathematics Revision

Thursdays - Maths Corridor - 3.10pm - 4pm

Please see below the topics that we are covering on which nights and by which member of the maths team. If you have a specific question on a topic that is not being taught that week, we are still more than happy to answer it for you

	Mr Thompson	Miss Pilcher	Mr Dyers	Mr Webster/ Mrs Bird
30th January	Quadratic Simultaneous Equations	Calculating with fractions	Similar shapes	Pythagoras Theorem
6th February	Sine and Cosine Rules	Angle rules	Factorising	Trigonometry
13th February	Algebraic Proof	Area and volume	Laws of indices	Angles on parallel lines
Half Term				
27th February	Direct & Inverse Proportion	Expanding Brackets	Solving equations	Construction & Loci
6th March	Laws of Indices	Negative Numbers	Linear graphs	Reverse ratios & reverse
13th March	Areas and Volumes of more advanced shapes	Percentages	Substitution	Simultaneous equations
20th March	Algebraic Fractions and Equations	Probability	Pie Chart	Linear graphs
27th March	Quadratic Equations with $a > 1$	Symmetry	Fractions	Transformations
3rd April	Sequences: linear and quadratic	Simple Interest	Constructions	Expand and Factorise
Easter Holidays				

Science Updates

The **IET Faraday® Challenge** is an annual competition of STEM activity days, which are designed to be cross curricular and cover hands on activities spanning science, technology, engineering and maths. We hosted the regional heat here at the Skegness Academy and welcomed teams from Somercotes Academy and Barnes Wallis Academy and our students competed for a place on the finals board.

With the best design and the best team presentation Team 5 from SKA won the competition! The next step is the national final in London... fingers crossed we have enough points to qualify! We will keep you updated on our progress!



Go Karting

Did you know that the Skegness Academy has a Go Kart team? Probably not but we do. It's called the **SKA Thunderbolts**. This STEM project is taking place on Wednesdays P5 and afterschool with students from Year 9 and Year 10. The only problem is the go kart come as a kit and needs to be built! The students are following as series of instructions to assemble the Go Kart ready to race.

Our first race meet is on Tuesday 6 May at Whilton Mill Go Kart track. This is a brilliant opportunity for students from SKA to get into some hands-on engineering problems.

So far the bearings are on, the track rods are fitted the steering wheel is on but there's still lots of work to do. It's great to see the students working independently to problem solve and work as an engineering team. Follow their progress on Facebook to see it being built from the box upwards!



English Updates

Key Stage 3 Update

The Skegness Academy is a reading school. We are actively promoting the joy of reading and encouraging our students to read outside of the classroom. Therefore, our Literacy Team have been working really hard on what our library lessons look like.

Students now have the following:

- A shared text, per class, which they all read collectively and for pleasure.
- A reading record card which enables them to keep track of what they are reading – the more they read, the more points they win!
- A Sparx reader log in. We expect all students to access this for half an hour a week for their homework. Please contact us if you require help with the log in process.

Readathon

Thank you all for your support with our January Readathon. Our community managed to raise **£317.70**

This was a fantastic initiative led by Mrs Baker. We cannot wait for the next one!

Key Stage 4 Update

This term we have been working hard towards our Year 11 mock examinations. Students have had to revise the fifteen poems they learnt last year. This is a massive task and there is lots to remember. With this in mind, the English Faculty spent Thursday 23 January hosting a poetry workshop. We went through all the poems, their stories and gave students top tips for how to revise and write about them. The workshop was a brilliant success, and we hope to host more events like this.



An Inspector Calls Trip

Mr Fenwick and Miss Coddington took a group of our Year 11 students to watch An Inspector Calls At Hull Truck Theatre. The trip was a great way to see the live production of one of their GCSE texts.

Just a reminder...

After half term, English revision is on for the following sessions:

Tuesday Lunchtime - A42 - English language

Wednesday after school - A54 - Writing workshops

Thursday lunchtime - A54 - English Literature

Sixth Form Update

NEC What university? What Career? Live Year 12 trip – Friday 28 February 2025

To help our students explore future opportunities related to their current studies or career aspirations, we have arranged tickets to the event mentioned above at the NEC Birmingham. This event offers a fantastic opportunity for students to connect with representatives from over 100 universities, colleges, apprenticeship providers, and employers, all available to discuss potential pathways for life after Sixth Form. Additionally, students can access further careers advice during the event. The staff and students will travel with a local coach company which will leave the Skegness Academy at 7.30am and return to the Academy by approximately 6.00pm.

Understanding Student Finance: A Valuable Session for Sixth Formers

Sixth Form students and their parents had the opportunity to gain crucial insights into student finance, thanks to an engaging session led by Nick from the University of Lincoln. The talk covered essential aspects of funding university life, from tuition fees and maintenance loans to accommodation expenses and budgeting strategies.

With university on the horizon for many, this session provided clarity on the financial commitments ahead and guidance on navigating the student finance application process. The interactive discussion allowed students and parents to ask questions, ensuring they left feeling more informed and prepared for the next steps.

For further information and official updates, visit <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

Other useful information to support with next steps for university!

Student Finance Calculator – A Must-Use Tool for Students!

The Student Finance Calculator on GOV.UK helps students estimate how much financial support they could receive for university or college. By entering key details such as household income, location, and course type, you can get a quick estimate of your loan eligibility for tuition fees and maintenance support. This tool is essential for budgeting and planning your studies effectively.

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator>

MoneySavingExpert – Student Bank Accounts

MoneySavingExpert's Student Bank Account Guide provides essential advice for students looking to open a bank account. It compares the best student accounts available, highlighting key features like interest-free overdrafts, perks, and hidden fees. The guide also offers tips on managing finances, avoiding debt, and maximizing student benefits. Whether you're starting university or switching accounts, this resource ensures you make the most financially savvy choice.

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/student-bank-account/>

The Scholarship Hub – Student Bursaries

The Scholarship Hub's Student Bursaries Guide is a valuable resource for students looking for financial support beyond traditional loans. It provides a comprehensive list of bursaries, grants, and scholarships available across the UK, helping students access funding based on their background, academic achievements, or financial need. The guide also offers tips on how to apply and maximize your chances of securing extra financial aid.

<https://www.thescholarshiphub.org.uk/student-bursaries/>

Sixth Form Update

Term 4 Fundraising Week: Monday 31 March – Friday 4 April

Join us for an exciting week of fundraising from Monday 31 March to Friday 4 April! Throughout the week, we'll be hosting a range of activities to support a great cause, bringing our school community together to make a difference. Keep an eye out for event details and ways you can get involved. Every contribution counts—let's make this week a success!

Year 11 Sixth Form Interviews – Coming Next Term!

As we approach the next stage of your academic journey, Sixth Form interviews for Year 11 students will take place next term. This is an exciting opportunity for students to discuss their course choices, future aspirations, and how Sixth Form can support their goals. The interviews will also provide guidance on subject combinations, entry requirements, and the wider opportunities available within Sixth Form.

More details, including interview dates and preparation tips, will be shared soon.

Exam Results Announcement

Exciting news for our students! The results for both Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications will soon be released.

- OCR Cambridge Technical results will be available on Thursday, 13 March.
- BTEC Nationals results will be released on Thursday, 20 March.

We wish all our students the best of luck and cannot wait to celebrate their success.